

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT (Via Zoom)

Bridget Burkhardt, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Brian Minier, and Alex McHenry

AMINISTRATION/STAFF (Via Zoom)

David Young

GUESTS (via Zoom)

2 guests

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were none.

**FY 2021 REVISED PROPOSED BUDGET – AN OVERVIEW WITH TIME FOR
COMMUNITY QUESTIONS**

David Young presented slides that gave an overview of the FY21 revised proposed budget. The budget increase being proposed is 1.52 percent and the proposed residential tax rate with CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) is 1.91 percent. Upward pressures on the budget were noted as well as reductions made since the last budget proposal in the areas of operations, new expenses, and programming and services. The impact of cuts made to date were clarified including the impact to students and the higher level of operational risk. The five- and ten-year average tax rates were shown for informational purposes as well as the combined city and school budgets and tax rates prior to income sensitivity; a page directly from the annual budget book provided to residents.

Information was shared on how, when, and where to vote in the August 11 election. In person voting is available at City Hall Monday, August 10 from 9:00 a.m.-noon. Residents can vote in person August 11 from 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at their district polling locations, Orchard School (7-1), FHTMS (7-2, 7-3), and Chamberlin School (7-4). Absentee ballots can be dropped in the night drop box outside City Hall until 8:00 am August 11 or in person at City Hall until noon August 10.

After the presentation, the floor was opened for community member questions. While James Johnson did not have questions because he had listened to the last board meeting, he offered insight on where he gets his news, The Other Paper, Front Porch Forum, and The Burlington Free Press. Board member introductions were also made.

David Young said if the budget passes August 11, there isn't a lot of time between then and the reopening of school in the hybrid model September 8 to bring staff back who had previously received RIF (reduction in force) notices or hire new staff. If the budget does not pass, schools will open at the current staff capacity and the district will wait until November to have another budget revote. Elizabeth Fitzgerald asked about the money Governor Phil Scott announced for childcare at his last press conference. David Young said he did not know yet how the funds would be distributed but is concerned about childcare availability for families and staff. To that end, he has been having many collaborative and positive conversations with local organizations and officials. It was

also his understanding that Governor Scott's announcement regarding the childcare grants will help subsidize childcare for individuals based on income.

ADJOURNMENT

Brian Minier made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Alex McHenry seconded. A roll call vote was taken and all were in favor. The motion passes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

Bridget Burkhardt, Clerk